Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15 OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 FEA-01 /122 W

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UNCLAS SAO PAULO 2906

FROM COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, BR, PA

SUBJECT: DECISION RE FREQUENCY OF ITAIPY POWER

REF: ASUNCION 4578

1. ON NOVEMBER 10 THE BRAZILIAN MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND ENERGY INFORMS THAT, TAKING INTO ACCOUT THE STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE TECHNICAL ORGANS IN ITS AREA, PARTICUL ARLY

ELETROBRAS, AND THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN HELD OVER A LONG PERIOD AT A TECHNICAL AND GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL WITH PARAGUAY ON THE SUBJECT OF THE FREQUENCY OF THE ITAIPU GENERATING UNITS, THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CHOSEN THE SOLUTION WHICH, AMONG THE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED VIABLE BY THE COUNTRIES, BEST SERVES THE NATIONAL INTERESTS.

"THIS SOLUTION CONSISTS IN THE INSTALLATION, AT THE ITAIPU HYDROELECTRIC PLANT, OF NINE GENERATING UNITS OPERATING ON THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FREQUENCY OF 60 HERTZ AND NINE OF 50 HERTZ. THE PORTION OF THE ENERGY GENERATED AT 60 HZ WILL BE TRANSMITTED IN BRAZIL THROUGH AN EM ULTRA HIGH VOLTAGE (765 KV) ALTERNATING CURRENT SYSTEM. THE PORTION GENERATED AT 50 HZ AND ACQUIRED BY BRAZIL UNDER TERMS OF THE ITAIPU TREATY WILL BE TRANSMITTED THROUGH A DIRECT CURRENT SYSTEM.

"THE TRANSMISSION BY DIRECT CURRENT, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN

WIDELY STUDIED BY THE BRAZILIAN ELECTRICAL SECTOR, IN ADDITION TO MEETING THE CONDITIONS OF THE ITAIPU UNDERTAKING, REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT STEP IN THE IMPLANTATION IN BRAZIL OF AN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, APPROPRIATE TO THE PRESENT AND FUTURE NATIONAL NEEDS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CONTINENTAL DIMENSIONS OF THE COUNTRY AND, ABOVE ALL, THE LONG DISTANCE TRANSMISSION OF THE ENERGY TO BE PRODUCED BY THE HYDRAULIC POTENTIAL OF THE AMAZON BASIN"

2. THE DECISION TO RESORT TO DIRECT CURRENT TRANSMISSION ENDS A LONG NEGOTIATION BETWEEN BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY AS TO HOW TO HANDLE THAT PART OF THE POWER WHICH WILL BELONG TO PARAGUAY BUT CANNOT BE USED IN THAT COUNTRY. OTHER POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS DISCUSSED WERE THE USE OF GENERATORS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING BOTH 50 AND 60 HZ POWER AND THE OPTION OF CONVERTING ALL POWER IN PARAGUAY TO 60 HZ. CHAPIN

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